

COUNTRY East Germany Approved For Release 2003/08/12 : CIA-RDP82-00457R015900150007-7

TOPIC Military Information from Grimma

EVALUATION see below PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 20 August, 13 October to 12 November 1952

DATE OBTAINED 25X1 DATE PREPARED 15 December 1952

REFERENCES 25X1

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

REFERENCE COPY

DO NOT CIRCULATE

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1. On 10 November 1952, the Strassburg Kaserne on Leipziger Strasse, Grimma was occupied by about 2,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with tank insignia. All quartering buildings were lighted at dusk. On 10 November, about 200 to 250 troops engaged in basic and firing training in the barracks yard. Two groups of soldiers practiced with devices, similar to the German bazooka. Numerous trucks were being maintained in front of the garages.

2. On 10 November, the Elsner Kaserne on Franz Mehring Strasse was occupied by about 1,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets including some with tank insignia. A resident stated that the units returned to the installation during the period from 8 to 11 October, with 70 to 80 trucks being unloaded at the station. On 10 November, about 150 to 200 unarmed troops were seen at basic training in the barracks yard. Fifteen trucks were being maintained in front of the garages.

3. On 10 November, the Oberschule on Thaelmann Strasse was occupied to capacity by about 250 to 300 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets.

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4. On 31 October, the Strassburg Kaserne was occupied by about 1,500 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. On 27 October, 6 quartering buildings were fully lighted at dusk, and only a few windows were lighted in two other quartering buildings. [redacted] 47 T-34/85 tanks, including 26 which had been unloaded on 10 October, were in the installation. An informant stated that another 21 tanks had returned to the installation by road. At about 10 a.m. on 28 October, about 500 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets were seen at field training at the former German post training grounds, about 1 km north of the installation. Half of the troops observed were recruits and the other half, trained soldiers. At 10 p.m. on 30 and 31 October, 650 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets left the installation and marched to the Elsnar Kaserne and returned to the Strassburg Kaserne at 11 p.m. respectively.

5. On 31 October, the Elsnar Kaserne was occupied to capacity by about 1,500 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery insignia. On 27 October, all quartering buildings were fully lighted. At 10 p.m. on 31 October, 390 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets left the installation for a march practice and returned at 11 p.m.

6. On 31 October, the Magema installation on Franz Mehring Strasse was occupied to capacity. On 27 October, the headquarters building and the quartering building next to it, which quartered the guard company of about 80 troops, were fully lighted after nightfall. Sentries observed wore red-bordered black epaulets. On 12 October, 27 troops practiced aiming with a 76.2-mm gun in the training area behind the quarters. [redacted]

7. On 9 and 10 October, the low wooden buildings at the Otterwisch training grounds and firing range were locked and not occupied. ²

8. At 10 a.m. on 28 October, [redacted] the bridge across the Mulde River near the Rabenstein, municipal forest, which had been built by construction engineers, was partially dismantled. ³

9. On 16 October, the Strassburg Kaserne was occupied by about 1,500 to 2,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with either tank or artillery insignia, and black-bordered crimson epaulets. [redacted] stated that, during the night of 9 October, about 1,500 to 2,000 troops, 18 x 57-mm AT guns, 10 trucks, each with 2 x 120-mm mortars, 80 to 100 trucks, 10 sedans, 4 jeeps, 20 sidecar motorcycles and 10 tanks had been unloaded at the Grima railroad station and had left for the Strassburg Kaserne. Three of the tanks were of JS-3 type. [redacted]

10. On 12 November, the Elsnar Kaserne was occupied by troops wearing black-bordered black epaulets with engineer insignia. Troops were observed engaged in mine laying and entrenching work. [redacted] On 12 November, the Magema installation was occupied by a headquarters with the sentries wearing red-bordered black epaulets.

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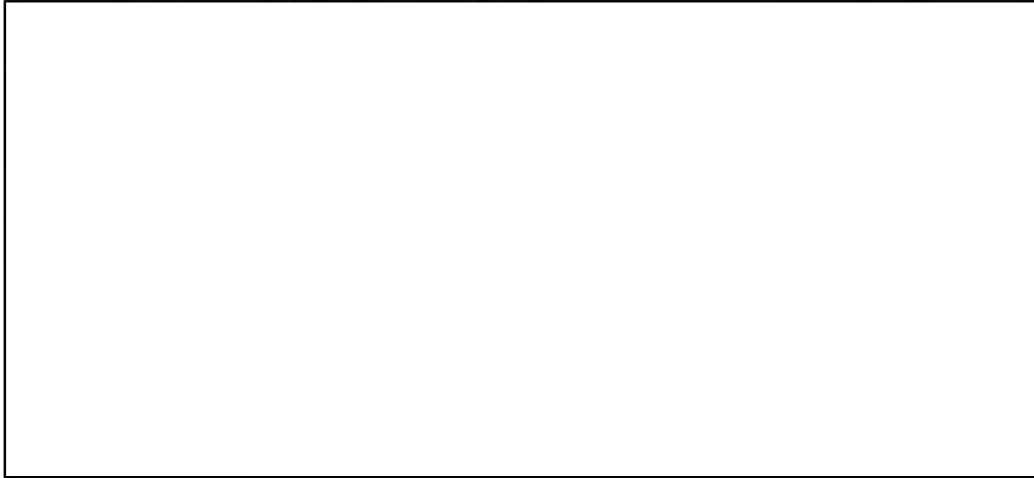
11. On 12 November, a local resident referred to the Landratsamt as hospital for the units in Wurzen, Taucha, Leisnig, Borna, Chemnitz und Grimma. The troops stationed at these posts belonged to a mixed unit which was under the command of General Tien (fnu). General Tien who is a White Russian of German origin allegedly was quartered in Grimma. On 12 November, the Oberschule on Ernst Thaelmann Strasse was occupied by the post officers' club, and the apartment of Captain Alapov (phonetic spelling) (fnu), administrative officer. 1

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12. On 20 August, a slip with data on sizes and time requirements for the excavation of foxholes indicating a time element of 8 to 12 minutes for foxholes of 1.20 meters length, 20 cm depth, 20 cm breastwork and 60 cm width to be used in prone position; a time element of 20 to 25 minutes for foxholes of 70 cm depth, 30 cm breastwork, and 90 to 100 cm width to be used in kneeling position; and a time element of 50 to 60 minutes for foxholes of 110 cm depth, 30 cm breastwork, 90 to 100 cm width and 50 to 60 cm width on the ground, to be used in standing position; was found near the cantonment buildings in the south section of the Pommern training grounds.

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